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were purchased in Tokyo at an expense of 5,000 yen. It is a pity that the attack on these animals, which are exceedingly plentiful in Japan, was not longer maintained.

Respectfully,
 The SURGEON GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., Sanitary Inspector.

End of plague in Japan.

KOBE, JAPAN, *February 22, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the plague in Japan is now entirely stamped out, no case having occurred for over two months in this ken (district) and for nearly two months in the Osaka ken. The health of this port and surrounding district is better now than has been the case for some years past, due to the thorough cleansing and sanitation enforced by the authorities.

Respectfully,
 The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

J. BUCKWILL FOWLER,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

NETHERLANDS.

Report from Rotterdam.

ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS, *March 8, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the five days ended March 3, 1900:

Four vessels were inspected and received bills of health. Of these, the steamship *Statendam*, of the Holland-American Line, was the only one carrying passengers. She sailed on the 1st instant for New York via Boulogne-sur-Mer, carrying 39 cabin and 346 steerage passengers. One hundred and sixty-five pieces of baggage were inspected and labeled and 65 pieces were disinfected and labeled.

The health of this port continues good.

Respectfully,
 The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

A. R. THOMAS,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

PORTO RICO.

Reports from Ponce.

PONCE, PORTO RICO, *February 26, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the quarantine and abstract bills of health reports for the week ended February 24, 1900, also the mortality statistics for the two weeks of the same date.

The death rate from tuberculosis and digestive diseases, especially that due to improper and insufficient food, continues high.

Respectfully,
 The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

W. W. KING,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

[Inclosure.]

Number and causes of deaths in Ponce Jurisdiction (city, playa, and surrounding country) during the two weeks ended February 24, 1900.

Infectious diseases—	
Tuberculosis	13
Malarial fever.....	7
Puerperal fever.....	2
Typhoid fever	1
Tetanus.....	1
Septicæmia.....	1
La grippe.....	1
Diseases of the digestive apparatus.....	33
Diseases of the respiratory system.....	3
Diseases of the circulatory system.....	6
Diseases of the nervous system.....	0
Other diseases (anæmia, inanition, etc.).....	35
Total	103
Births in the same period.....	75

PONCE, PORTO RICO, *March 5, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the weekly quarantine and abstract of bills of health reports for the week ended March 3, 1900. I also inclose a consolidated statement of the work done at this station during the month of February. During the week nothing of interest has occurred among the shipping and the general health of Ponce continues as before.

Respectfully,

W. W. KING,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Summary of transactions of service during the month of February, 1900.

Total number of deaths reported during February, 1900	197
Total number of deaths reported during February, 1899.....	(a) 160
Total number of births reported during February, 1900.....	(a) 144
Total number of births reported during February, 1899.....	79
Total number of vessels inspected during February, 1900	29
Total number of bills of health issued during February, 1900.....	31
Number of vessels in quarantine during February, 1900	0
Number of passengers whose baggage was disinfected during February, 1900.....	0
Number of vaccination certificates stamped during February, 1900.....	366
Number of vessels inspected during February, 1899	40
Number of vessels which sailed during February, 1899.....	34
Number of immigrants inspected during February, 1900.....	69

Report of immigrants inspected at Ponce during the month of February, 1900.

PONCE, PORTO RICO, *March 2, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to give below the number of immigrants inspected by this office during the month of February, with rejections: February 3, steamship *Salvador*, Fort de France and St. Thomas, 41. February 14, steamship *Las Palmas*, Puerto Cabello, 1. February 17, steamship *Salvador*, Port au Prince and St. Domingo, 6. February 18, steamship *Maria Herrera*, Cuba and St. Domingo, 16. February 19,

^a These figures are for the district of Ponce, comprising the city proper, the playa, and surrounding barrios.